

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 63 are pending, of which claims 1, 27, 35, 40, and 49 are independent. The examiner rejects claims 1 – 63 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Hahn (US6230029) in view of Holmes (US6889065). The applicant respectfully disagrees and offers the following remarks in response.

Independent claim 1 claims a mobile device that integrates a wireless headset with the mobile device by including a fastener that mechanically connects the wireless headset to a housing of the mobile device. Claim 1 was rejected as being obvious in view of Hahn and Holmes. The examiner states “it would have been obvious ... to apply the technique of Holmes to the communication system of Hahn in order to provide an adapter module for adapting a hands-free to a Bluetooth enabled mobile device, allowing all Bluetooth enabled mobile devices to utilize an existing or otherwise incompatible hands-free kit.”

Nothing in Hahn or Holmes teaches or suggests such a mobile device. Instead, Hahn describes a wireless headset system for a mobile device. The wireless headset system comprises a “base station” module that electrically connects to the mobile device and wirelessly connects to the wireless headset to facilitate a wireless interface between the headset and the mobile device. Holmes describes an adapter module that adapts a wireless device to a hands-free car kit. These references do not disclose a fastener to mechanically connect a wireless headset to a housing of the mobile device, as required by claim 1. As such teachings are irrelevant to the invention of independent claim 1, claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are patentably distinct from the cited art.

Independent claims 27 and 40 claim a mobile terminal having a detector circuit to determine a position of a wireless headset relative to the mobile terminal. Based on the determined position, the mobile terminal establishes a wireless or electrical interface between the mobile terminal and the wireless headset. First, as the examiner’s stated rejections do not

focus on the specific language of claim 27 or claim 40, the rejections are legally insufficient. Further, nothing in Hahn or Holmes teaches or suggests any type of detector circuit for determining a position of a wireless headset relative to the mobile device or using the determined position to determine the type of connection between the mobile device and the wireless headset. Instead, Hahn simply describes a “base station” module that facilitates wireless connections between the wireless headset and the mobile device, and Holmes describes an adaptor for a hands-free car kit. The applicant further notes that nothing in Hahn or Holmes teaches or suggests using an electrical interface (wired connection) between the mobile device and the wireless headset. For at least these reasons, independent claims 27 and 40 and all claims depending therefrom are patentably distinct from the cited art.

Independent claim 35 claims a method of selecting a communication interface between a mobile terminal and a wireless headset based on whether or not the wireless headset is mechanically connected to the mobile terminal. If the mobile terminal and wireless headset are mechanically connected, an electrical interface operating mode is selected. If the mobile terminal and wireless headset are not mechanically connected, a wireless interface operating mode is selected. As discussed previously, nothing in Hahn or Holmes teaches or suggests using a mechanical connection (or lack thereof) between the wireless headset and mobile device to select between electrical and wireless interface operating modes. For at least this reason, independent claim 35 and all claims depending therefrom are patentably distinct from the cited art.

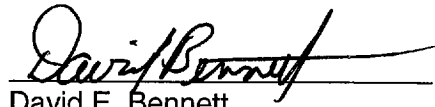
Independent claim 49 claims a mobile terminal with a speaker and a microphone. The speaker and the microphone interface with the mobile device via a wireless interface when the speaker and microphone are mechanically disconnected from the mobile terminal. The speaker and the microphone interface with the mobile device via an electrical interface when the speaker and microphone are mechanically connected to the mobile terminal. For substantially the same

reasons presented herein with respect to claim 35, independent claim 49 and all claims depending therefrom are patentably distinct from the cited art.

In light of the above remarks, the applicant requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw all pending rejections, and issue a notice of allowance. Should any issues remain unresolved, the applicant requests that the examiner call the undersigned so that any such issues may be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David E. Bennett", is written over a horizontal line.

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